

The Sixth International Nuclear Emergency Exercise (INEX-6): Long-Term Recovery

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INEX-6 Overview

Development of the INEX Series

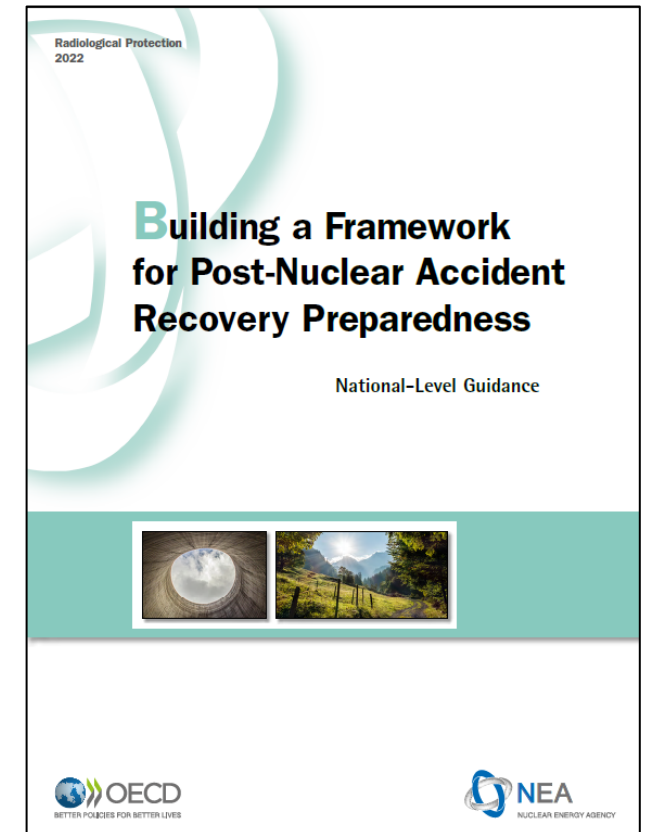
- Since 1993, the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development's (OECD) Nuclear Energy Agency (NEA) has tested and facilitated improvements in emergency management systems nationally and internationally through the International Nuclear Emergency Exercise (INEX) series.
- The seventh exercise in the series, INEX-6, will be conducted in 2024 and focuses on the **long-term recovery phase of a large-scale radiological incident**, which has not been tested before at the international level.

Development of the INEX Series

INEX Series	Exercise Objectives	Year
INEX-1	Early phase; Communication; Decision making process in national responses; Food safety; Emergency assistance	1993
INEX-2	Decision making in uncertain conditions; Real time communication; Public and media interactions	1996-1999
INEX 2000	Monitoring and data management strategies for nuclear emergencies; International coordination; Aspects of the Convention on Third Party Liability	1999-2001
INEX-3	Consequence management; Long-term issues; Decision making in the medium- and longer-term	2005-2006
INEX-4	Post-crisis emergency management; Response to widespread radiological contamination of the urban environment	2010-2013
INEX-5	Notification and communication aspects; Transboundary aspects; Interfaces; Identifying and obtaining resources (<i>Southern Exposure tangentially linked</i>)	2015-2016
INEX-6	Long-term recovery phase	2023-2024

Development of INEX-6

- The Expert Group for the Sixth International Nuclear Emergency Exercise (EG-INEX-6) started in May 2022.
- Membership: Canada (Chair), USA (Vice-Chair), UK (Vice-Chair), Belgium, Bulgaria, Chinese-Taipei (invited experts), France, Germany, Japan, Portugal, Slovak Republic, Switzerland.
- Key Drivers for INEX-6:
 - Focus on long-term recovery/existing exposure situation (after termination of the emergency).
 - Test key areas of [NEA's Expert Group on Recovery Management's Framework for Recovery Preparedness](#).
 - Identify improvements to enhance national and international preparedness for recovery.



<https://www.oecd-nea.org>

What is INEX-6?

- INEX-6 is a table-top, question-driven exercise, where players are challenged to explain what longer-term protective actions will be taken.
- Exercise materials (scenario, modules, injects, etc.) developed by the EG-INEX-6, with country-specific objectives incorporated as needed.
- Countries to run independent table-top exercises, which are compared after the event through INEX-6 questionnaire and NEA hosted post-exercise evaluation workshop.

INEX-6 Scope

INEX-6 will:

- be delivered individually by participating countries as a table-top exercise using the same exercise scenario in order to draw comparisons between countries.
- involve a series of modules focusing on key topical issues associated with long-term recovery management.
- involve a scenario that begins after termination of a radiological or nuclear emergency.

INEX-6 will not:

- test all elements associated with long-term recovery.
- be built upon a very technically detailed accident scenario description, but rather on a more narrative or semi-quantitative one.
- be based on an accident in a specific geographic location.

INEX-6 Objectives

1. Test preparedness for recovery, including organizational structures' roles and responsibilities, stakeholder engagement, as well as mechanisms for international cooperation to assess the adequacy of current arrangements and identify potential gaps against the EGRM's Framework for Recovery Preparedness;
2. Test the decision-making process for the implementation of longer-term protective actions, including the justification and optimization of such actions considering both radiological and non-radiological issues;
3. Test the adoption of an all-hazards approach to recovery management, utilizing skills, knowledge and capabilities from outside of the nuclear field.

Who will participate in INEX-6?

- The NEA designated participating countries to create a National Planning Committee (NPC) to facilitate the planning, delivery, and evaluation of INEX-6.
- The NPC invites players from all levels of government (Federal, State, Local, Tribal, and Territorial), decision makers, regulators, public authorities, and local community organizations to participate in the exercise.
- Each exercise player can participate in 1-4 modules to provide perspective from their jurisdiction, community, or expertise.

INEX-6 Modules



1. Health Aspects

(covering issues such as Mental Health and Psychosocial (MHPSS) issues, medical follow-up, medical surveillance)



2. Food Safety

(covering issues such as food monitoring, food restrictions, international and domestic food trade)



3. Remediation and Decontamination

(covering issues such as remediation of natural and built environment, contaminated land, access control)



4. Waste Management

(covering issues such as storage, treatment, characterisation, transport, disposal)

Cross-Cutting Issues: Stakeholder Engagement, Communications, International Cooperation, Socio-Economics

INEX-6 Player Logistics

Preparing and Delivering INEX-6 within Countries

Roles to be Assigned:

National Exercise Organiser (NEO)	The individual or organisation who “owns” the exercise and has overall responsibility for ensuring efficient exercise delivery and that all participating organisations are involved from the beginning of the exercise development process.
National Planning Committee (NPC)	The collective group of representatives from responsible organisations (see Exercise Planning Representative), chaired by the National Exercise Organiser, with the overall responsibility for delivering the national table-top or workshop exercise.
Exercise Players	Participants in the exercise that are required to respond to the exercise scenario in accordance with existing policies, protocols, and emergency preparedness and response plans/procedures.
Exercise Moderator	The individual(s) with responsibility for maintaining the efficient conduct of a national INEX6 exercise. The Exercise Moderator is responsible for ensuring that the exercise play and discussions progress smoothly according to the exercise framework, and that Exercise Players are provided with all necessary technical materials and driving inputs according to the exercise timeline.
Exercise Evaluator/Recorder	The individual(s) with the responsibility for ensuring that exercise activities in support of exercise objectives are effectively recorded to support the completion of the INEX6 Exercise Evaluation Questionnaire and any other exercise reporting.
Exercise Observer	Individuals invited to observe the exercise with no responsibility to contribute to exercise play or the organisation

Where and when will INEX-6 take place?

- INEX-6 will take place in a **hybrid format**, with in-person players in Washington, DC, and virtual players via Microsoft Teams.
- INEX-6 will be conducted **March 19-21, 2024**, with the anticipated module schedule below:
 - March 19, 2024 from 1300-1700 ET: Module 1: Health Impacts
 - March 20, 2024 from 0800-1200 ET: Module 3: Remediation and Decontamination
 - March 20, 2024 from 1300-1700 ET: Module 4: Waste Management
 - March 21, 2024 from 0800-1200 ET: Module 2: Food Safety

INEX-6 Exercise Agenda

Module 1: Health Impacts Agenda

March 19, 2024 from 1300-1700 ET

1. Welcome remarks and module instructions (10 minutes)
2. INEX-6 Scenario Recap (5 minutes)

*** STARTEX ***

3. Theme 1 – Health Status: Questions & Injects (60 minutes)
4. Theme 2 – Medical Follow up and the Health Care System: Questions & Injects (60 min.)
5. Theme 3 – Mental Health: Questions & Injects (90 minutes)

*** ENDEX ***

7. Summary (15 minutes)
8. Close



Module 3: Remediation & Decontamination Agenda

March 20, 2024 from 0800-1200 ET

1. Welcome remarks and module instructions (10 minutes)
2. INEX-6 Scenario Recap (5 minutes)

*** STARTEX ***

3. Theme 1 – Regulatory and Policy Framework: Questions & Topics (45 minutes)
4. Theme 2 – Identification of remediation goals & remedial actions: Questions & Topics (105 min)
5. Theme 3 – Implementation of remedial actions: Questions & Topics (60 minutes)

*** ENDEX ***

7. Summary (15 minutes)
8. Close



Module 4: Radioactive Waste Management Agenda

March 20, 2024 from 1300-1700 ET

1. Welcome remarks and module instructions (10 minutes)
2. INEX-6 Scenario Recap (5 minutes)

*** STARTEX ***

3. Theme 1 – Regulatory and Policy Framework: Questions & Topics (60 minutes)
4. Theme 2 – Transport of Radioactive Waste: Questions & Topics (30 minutes)
5. Theme 3 – Temporary Storage: Questions & Topics (75 minutes)
6. Theme 4 – Disposal Routes: Questions & Topics (45 minutes)

*** ENDEX ***

7. Summary (15 minutes)
8. Close



Module 2: Food Safety Agenda

March 21, 2024 from 0800-1200 ET

1. Welcome remarks and module instructions (10 minutes)
2. INEX-6 Scenario Recap (5 minutes)

*** STARTEX ***

3. Theme 1 – Regulatory and Policy Framework: Questions & Injects (45 minutes)
4. Theme 2 – Quality Assurance: Questions & Injects (75 minutes)
5. Theme 3 – Trade and Consumer Confidence: Questions & Injects (90 minutes)

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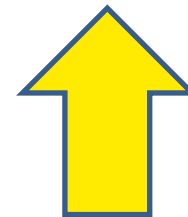
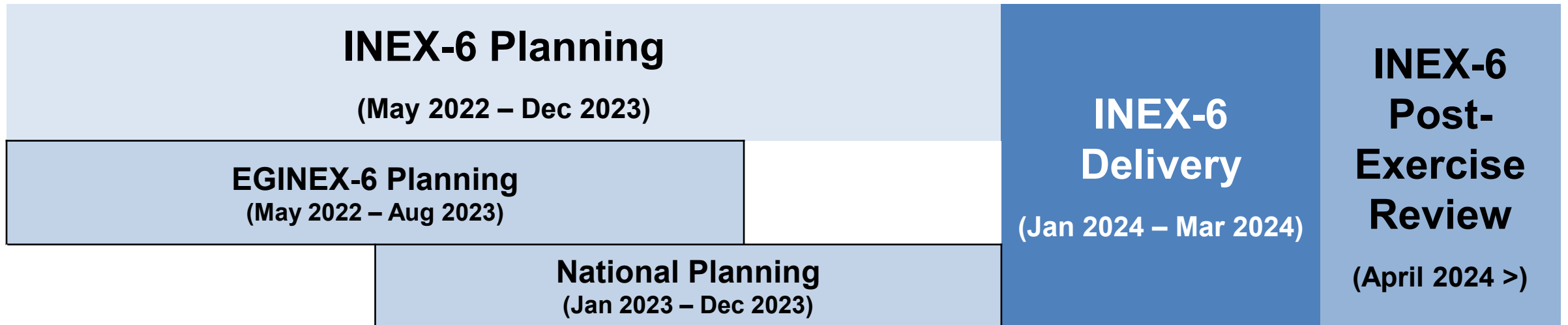
7. Summary (15 minutes)
8. Close



INEX-6 Exercise Player Next Steps

- The *INEX-6 Guide for Exercise Players* and the *INEX-6 Scenario Narrative* is **forthcoming**; this will be distributed by the EG-INEX-6 to each country's NPC.
- If you would like to be an INEX-6 Exercise Player (either virtual or in-person), please reach out to Danielle Montecalvo by **Wednesday, February 14, 2024**.
 - Please list which module(s) you would like to participate in and if you plan to attend virtually or in-person.

Timeline



Thank you for your attention

Questions should be directed to Danielle Montecalvo
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All NEA publications and institutional documentation available at
www.oecd-nea.org

